Since we have locks to safeguard necessaries.
And pretty traps[5] to catch the petty thieves,
While that the armed hand doth fight abroad.
The advised head defends itself at home:
For government, though high, and low, and lower[6],
Put into parts, doth keep in one concent[7];

Again, in Chapman's translation of the 5th Odyssey:

"[8] ——while thus discourse he held
" A *curs'd* surge 'gainst a cutting rock impell'd
" His naked body." STEEVENS.

Mr. M. Mason justly observes, that this interpretation, though perhaps the true one, does not agree with the context. [Yet that is *but* an *unfortunate* necessity, *since* we &c.] and therefore proposes to read—

*' Yet that is *not* a curs'd necessity."

But and *not* are so often confounded in these plays, that I think his conjecture extremely probable. See vol. xiv. p. 92, n. 5. It is certainly (as Dr. Warburton has observed) the speaker's business to show that there is no real necessity for staying at home. MALONE.

5 And PRETTY traps—] Thus the old copy: but I believe we should read *petty*.

Pretty, however, is a term colloquially employed by our author in Romeo and Juliet:

« —— my daughter's *of a pretty* age." STEEVENS.

6 For GOVERNMENT, though HIGH, and LOW, and LOWER,] The foundation and expression of this thought seems to be borrowed from Cicero, De Republica, lib. ii.:

** Sic ex *summis*, et *mediis*, et *infimis* interjectis *ordinibus*, ut sonis, moderatam rationem civitatem, *consensu* dissimilium *concinere*; et quae *harmonia* a musicis dicitur in cantu, earn esse in *civitate concordiam*." THEOBALD.

7 in one CONCENT;] I learn from Dr. Burney, that *consent* is connected harmony, in general, and not confined to any specific consonance. ' Thus, (says the same elegant and well-informed writer,) *concentio* and *concensus* are both used by Cicero for the union of voices or instruments in what we should now call a *chorus*, or *concert*.

In the same sense I suppose Ben Jonson to have used the word in his Volpone, Act III. Sc. IV.:

"• as Plato holds, your music
** (And so does wise
Pythagoras, I take it)
" Is your true rapture, when
there is *consent*
' In face, in voice/' &c.

STEEVENS.